

Nebraska State Board of Landscape Architects
Board Meeting Minutes – October 31, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln NE

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Seacrest called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. and noted the location of the Open Meetings Act. Notice of the meeting was published in the Lincoln Journal Star on October 17, 2023, and on the Board's website under the Open Meetings Act.

Roll Call: Derek Miller, Bradley Swerczek, Jennifer Seacrest, Absent: Kristina Engler, Jonathan Hauck, Regan Pence

Staff Present: Jean Lais, Administrative Programs Officer (APO); Diana Stahlnecker, Administrative Programs Officer (APO)

PUBLIC COMMENT/APPOINTMENTS

A. CONSENT AGENDA

[July 25, 2023, Meeting Minutes](#)

[August 30, 2023, Meeting Minutes](#)

Motion by Swerczek, second by Miller, to approve the consent agenda. Voting Yes: Miller, Swerczek, Seacrest; Voting No: None; Absent: Engler, Hauck, Pence

Engler entered the meeting at 9:14 a.m.

B. MEETING REPORTS

CLARB

Information on upcoming In the Know webinars was provided.

[2023 Annual Meeting Recap](#)

APO Stahlnecker provided a recap of the annual meeting held in Henderson NV, September 20-22, 2023. Highlights included:

- The keynote was on being *Strategically Disciplined*, addressing having foresight and brainstorming what may happen in the future, how AI may impact the profession, and finding alternate licensure pathways.
- CLARB has partnered with the International Federation of Landscape Architecture (IFLA) to study the licensure of landscape architects on a global scale.
- 2024 Board of Directors
 - Lea Ann Mackinally (AL) – President
 - Joel Kurokawa (HI) – President-Elect
 - Caris McMullen (KS) – Past President
 - Craig Coronato (CO) – Treasurer
 - Emily Cronbaugh (WY) – Director at Large
 - Allison Fleury (WY) – Director at Large
 - Monica Pallares (Mexico) – Director at Large
- 2024 Leadership Advisory Council
 - Carissa McMullen (KS) – Chair
 - Daniel Biggs (NY)
 - Ryan Collins (AL)
 - John Cothron (MS)
 - Candace Dillingham (OK)
 - Julia Manley (WA)

Nebraska State Board of Landscape Architects
Board Meeting Minutes – October 31, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
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- Mark Taylor (CO)

Chair Seacrest reported CLARB will begin working on a uniformed continuing education (CE/PDH) guideline and proposed all be processed through the Council and requiring all hours to be health, safety, and welfare (HSW) related. She noted Nebraska's CE/PDH requirements are fairly broad, and self-study activities would likely not be allowed. She also noted CLARB is advocating CE/PDH go through the Council.

Office/Staff

APO Lais updated the members on the progress of the database. Renewals are scheduled to go live on November 1, 2023, with applications going live on November 8, 2023. She also informed the members Josh Frerking, Public Information Officer, gave notice, and his last day will be November 9, 2023.

C. OLD BUSINESS

CLARB – *None*

Legislative

LB16/AM748 Universal Licensing Update

Chair Seacrest, Miller, and APO Lais met with Senator Briese's staff and Laura Ebke, Platte Institute, on September 18, 2023, to request landscape architects be exempted from the requirements of LB16/AM748. The Platte Institute is the driving force behind the bill. Both Ebke and the senator's staff were open to the request. A draft copy of AM2022 on September 26, 2023, exempting landscape architects from the bill's requirements, was provided.

A takeaway from the meeting was if the Board has an issue with a bill in the future, it is best to testify in person instead of submitting a letter as it will become part of the transcript and available to anyone. Letters are only accessible to the legislature.

LR222 Interim Study

Miller and APO Lais gave a recap of the LR222 hearing held on September 22, 2023, before the Government, Veterans and Military Affairs (GVMA) Committee. Miller's testimony summarized the Occupational Board Reform Act Survey (OBRA). The hearing and survey are required to be conducted every five years. A copy of the survey submittal was provided. The Committee will now publish a report with any revision recommendations.

Draft Statute and Rules Revision

A copy of the statute and rules revisions based on the discussion at the August 30, 2023, meeting was provided. Copies have been sent to CLARB and the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) Nebraska-Dakota Chapter for comment. APO Lais also inquired of CLARB regarding the effect on membership dues if the Board moved forward with not requiring a CLARB record to qualify for licensure. No responses have been received. Further discussion was held until the January meeting.

Other Old Business – *None*

D. NEW BUSINESS

CLARB

California Review of LARE/CLARB Response

A copy of a letter the California Board's Landscape Architects Technical Committee sent to CLARB in May 2023 outlining LARE concerns raised by the California Department of Consumer Affairs Office of Professional Examination Services was provided along with CLARB's response in August 2023.

August 2023 Board Reports – Region 4

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Board Meeting Minutes – October 31, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
215 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln NE

August 2023 Board Reports – Region 4

A copy of the August 2023 Region 4 Board reports was provided.

Call for Nominations for 2024

CLARB is looking for volunteer nominations for 2025. Nominations are being accepted for the following positions and are due by November 30, 2023.

- President-Elect
- Directors at Large (3-5)
- Leadership Advisory Council (2)

FY2024 Scope of Work

A copy of the CLARB FY2024 Scope of Work was provided.

Other New Business

Strategic Plan Review

A copy of the current strategic plan was provided. Review and discussion were held until the January meeting.

Outreach Initiatives

APO Stahlnecker provided suggestions for possible outreach activities. After discussion, it was determined an understanding is needed of what other stakeholders are doing, where there are voids, and whether any work is being duplicated. Chair Seacrest will contact the College of Architecture and ASLA to see what they are doing to promote licensure and if there are any activities the Board may be able to participate in.

Outreach to high schools and community colleges was discussed. Metropolitan Community College (MCC) is the only community college in Nebraska with a horticultural program. None have landscape architecture programs. Engler stated many of the students in the MCC program are non-traditional students pursuing a second career. She will follow up to see if there may be opportunities for the Board can participate.

Pence Resignation

A copy of Pence's resignation was provided, along with copies of the notices sent to ASLA and all Nebraska-residing licensees regarding the vacancy. His resignation is effective October 31, 2023.

E. COMPLIANCE – *None*

F. APPLICATIONS

Administratively Approved

Licensure by CLARB Certificate

Approved: LA 455 Jennifer Lynn Cross, LA 456 Steven Daniel Foss, LA 453 Dustin Michael Lohmann, LA 454 Julie Marie Meenan Eck, LA 457 Arlin Clark Vancuren

Initial Licensure - *None*

Licensure/Examinations

Licensure by Comity - *None*

Licensure by Reinstatement - *None*

LARE Applications without an LAAB/LAAC-accredited degree - *None*

Motion by Miller, second by Engler, to approve the applications as presented. Voting Yes: Engler, Miller, Swerczek, Seacrest; Voting No: None; Absent: Hauck, Pence

G. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Reports – July, August, September

[Budget Status Report](#)

[MTD General Ledger Detail Reports](#)

[Fund Summary Reports](#)

[FY23-24 Financial Profile](#)

APO Lais reported that as of September 30, 2023, with just over 25% of the fiscal year elapsed, 3.86% of the appropriated expenditures have been used and 15.57% of the projected revenue had been received. The lower revenue receipts over previous years are due to the delay in launching the new renewal portal. The next quarter’s statement should give a truer picture of the projected revenue.

The Cash Fund was at \$86,387.11 as of September 30th, which is \$5,877 higher than the same period last year.

Motion by Engler, second by Swerczek, to approve the financial reports as presented. Voting Yes: Engler, Miller, Swerczek, Seacrest; Voting No: None; Absent: Hauck, Pence

Other Financial Matters – None

H. GENERAL INFORMATION

[Trends in Licensure](#)

As of October 24, 2023

Professional Landscape Architects	170
In State	62
Out of State	108
Applications Received to date in FY2023-24	4
Licenses issued to date in FY2023-24	7

Other Information

[LARE Results](#)

The August 2023 LARE results were provided.

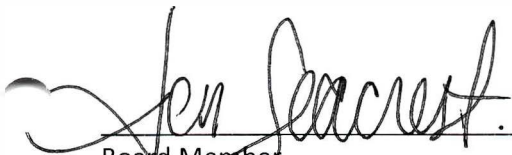
[Website Dashboard Report – July, August, September 2023](#)

	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>
Total Visits	271	481	502

A copy of the approved Board policies as of January 27, 2021, was provided.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Seacrest adjourned the meeting at 10:19 a.m.



 Board Member

